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## News in brief

### Man arrested for assault, home invasion

A 27-year-old Inkster man could be charged with assault and home invasion after he allegedly beat his girlfriend in Inkster, then broke into a home in Romulus.

The victim, who is 21, told police that she was in a vehicle Monday with her boyfriend in the area of Avondale Street and Middlebelt, when the assault occurred, said Inkster Det. Jeffrey Falkenstien.

"A verbal argument broke out while they were in the car, which escalated (into a physical fight)," he said. "She had several wounds."

Falkenstien said the victim had several lacerations on her face, bruises, and a swollen lip.

The pair drove into Romulus, where the victim called her mother, police said. The boyfriend at some point broke down the door at the mother's home, and was arrested by Romulus police.

The boyfriend is in custody. Romulus Det. Lt. John Leacher said detectives are seeking charges from the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office.

It is the policy of The Romulus Roman not to print the name of an individual who has not been officially charged with a crime.

### Out-county report imminent

Area residents will be able to hear directly from Wayne County Sheriff Warren C. Evans about the activities of his office at his Report to the Community presentation on Monday, June 16.

The event is open to all out-county residents, and will be take place from 6-8 p.m. at the Taylor Campus of the Wayne County Community College District, located at 21000 Northline between Telegraph and I-75.

"Most people tend to be very surprised when they see just how much we do for them," Evans said. "The Sheriff's Office provides a wide range of innovative programs and services that support the work being done by local police departments, all of which help to make Wayne County safer."

Among the topics Evans will discuss are child protection services, such as Internet predator investigations; recovering missing and exploited children; senior safety; fugitive apprehension; auto theft; deed fraud; narcotics enforcement and community outreach.

Evans said that after his presentation, officers from every major unit will be on hand to answer questions or take complaints from residents.

— News briefs are compiled by Staff Writer Molly Tippen.

# THE ROMULUS ROMAN

Vol. 120, No. 24

NEWS YOU CAN USE, NEWS YOU CAN TRUST

75¢

## 11 paraprofessionals to be laid off

Molly Tippen  
Staff Writer

Limits imposed on federal grant funds that paid the cost of advanced reading classes caused the layoff of 11 kindergarten paraprofessionals Monday.

Romulus Community School Board members voted to lay the paraprofessionals off after much debate and the level of uncertainty surrounding the Reading First grant, which pays the salaries of the paraprofessionals, said Superintendent of Schools Carl Weiss.

"According to our union contracts, we have to give notice to our employees when there are layoffs," he said. "It's a precautionary measure. If the funding stabilizes, we may be able to call some of them back."

"It's an unfortunate thing to have to do, and nobody likes it," he said.

This summer, paraprofessionals were the only employees that faced the unemployment line.

Reading First is a federal grant supplied by the U.S. Department of Education that provides districts with the ability to focus and tailor reading programs to the needs of children.

The district currently receives \$1 million in funding that pays for programming and salaries,

*It's a precautionary measure. If the funding stabilizes, we may be able to call some of them back.*

Carl Weiss

which will be missed if Romulus Schools does not get any more funding.

"It's been a great program for us," he said.

At the federal level, Reading First was cut by 61 percent.

But its difficult to know whether Michigan Schools that receive the grant will be cut by 61 percent in terms of the allocated funds, or whether some schools will cease to receive funding, Weiss said.

"Right now we just don't know how they're going to split the baby," he said.

Also affecting the status of the paraprofessionals is a downturn in the number of enrolled kindergartners at the five Romulus elementary schools.

Right now, about 169 students are enrolled, Weiss said.

"That's actually down from last year, but its about the same place we were this time last year," he said. "But at the end, we'd like to see that number increased to 280 or 290 students."

The cuts at the school are among a slew of lost jobs in the city recently.

A combined 700 jobs were lost when it was announced that Lear Corp. and Plastech would be closing industrial facilities located in the city. Typically, the schools have been able to call back laid off employees because of retirements and attrition.

Paraprofessionals were laid off in order of lowest to highest seniority, and if they are called back incrementally, the highest seniority employees will be called back first.

In two weeks, schools officials should know the status of the reading grant funds, said Weiss.

If the Reading First funding is in part or completely granted, and if there's a healthy influx of kindergartners enrolled in the schools during the summer, the paraprofessionals could be back on the job by the start of next school year, Weiss said.

"Unfortunately, that's the environment we live in today," he said.



### Volunteerism makes a difference

The annual volunteer luncheon at Cory Elementary School recently included a ceremony recognizing the efforts of three individuals that went well above and beyond in terms of volunteer hours and commitment. Keenan Brown, center, Cynthia Price, right, and George Stubbs, left, each received Bronze level pins and certificates for 100 to 249 hours of service. Each of these Presidential Volunteer Service Award winners were recognized with a letter from President George Bush thanking them for their continued commitment to volunteerism in our region.

## Water, sewer rates to increase

Molly Tippen  
Staff Writer

Fee increases instituted by the Detroit Water Board will be felt by local residents following a vote of the Romulus City Council members Monday.

Council members approved a new water and sewer fee schedule at their regular meeting Monday – though some weren't happy about the prospect of escalating costs imposed by Detroit, which this year topped 7 percent.

"The costs were all related to increases in Detroit," said Councilman William Crova. "Their costs have increased to maintain the system – they're the vendor for this service. There's little else we can do but pass the costs along to consumers."

*Their costs have increased to maintain the system – they're the vendor for this service. There's little else we can do but pass the costs along to consumers.*

William Crova

This year, water and sewer rates will increase by a combined 7.19 percent, to cover the cost hike instituted by Detroit.

Romulus – along with 125 other communities in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Livingston counties – purchases water from the City of

Detroit. Rates are increased periodically by the seven-member Detroit Water and Sewer Board, which has representatives from the counties and the city.

Crova said no one in Romulus government is happy about the increases, given that prices of gas, groceries and other mainstays are increasing almost daily – along with the level of unemployment in the city.

"Of course we understand that residents aren't happy about the increases," he said. "But look at the price of gas – every time I go to fill up, I'm unnerved."

Specifically, rates for 1,000 cubic feet of water will increase from \$19.44 to \$20.81. Non-residential sewer rates will go up from \$20.97

See **Water**, page 3

## Airport discussion productive

Molly Tippen  
Staff Writer

A meeting last week between Wayne County Airport Authority officials and local mayors who oppose a proposed master plan expansion was described as fruitful by some in attendance.

Romulus Mayor Alan Lambert – the most vocal of the opponents who have forced the airport to hold off on voting on the plan – said he believes the possibility for constructive dialogue has improved.

"I feel that they listened to us, and it was a very productive meeting," said Lambert. "I think the discussion we had was something we could build on."

Inkster Mayor Hilliard Hampton, who also attended the meeting, said he believed the discussion was informative.

"They understand our concerns and the reasons why local mayors, including myself, oppose the plan," he said. "I think it went well."

Earlier this year, Wayne County Airport Authority officials announced they would vote on a master plan that would take shape in Romulus only if air traffic increased.

The expansion – which would include a fifth parallel runway along Eureka Road would cost the city \$114 million in assessed value, when commercial and residential buildings are demolished to make room for the runway.

Estimates indicate the plan would effectively reduce the size of the City of Romulus by about 7 percent, and potentially by 3,500 residents. Also threatened with demolition would be the 350-unit Sky Harbor Apartments, 30 industrial buildings, 18 commercial buildings, at least one subdivision, and Merriman Elementary School.

In all, about 800 residences would be demolished, and the city

See **Airport**, page 3

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# Local historians to be honored at museum

Andrea King  
Staff Writer

It's time for history to honor the historians.

Long-time residents and regional historians Park and Edna Mae Gregory will be honored in the next exhibit at the Belleville Area Museum.

The summer exhibit will begin June 19 when the Friends of the Fred C. Fischer Library and the museum host an event from 5-7 p.m. at the museum to honor the couple and their accomplishments.

Park Gregory, who died in 2007, along with his wife, Edna Mae Gregory, were both dedicated teachers and active in the community, according to Diane Wilson, director of the museum.

"Park taught science and chemistry at Belleville High School then later physics at Taylor schools and the Wayne County Community College District," she said. "Edna Mae also taught in Taylor in the fine arts."

"They were also very involved at Victory Park, too," she added.

**"**

*Park taught science and chemistry at Belleville High School then later physics at Taylor schools and the Wayne County Community College District, Edna Mae also taught in Taylor in the fine arts.*

**Diane Wilson**

According to Elaine Gutierrez, a member of the Friends of the Fred C. Fischer Library, the Belleville couple was most noted for their collaboration in the book "See Again: A Pictorial History of Belleville." Proceeds of that were gifted to restore Victory Comfort Station. At Victory Park, they also commissioned the creation of the statue of French explorer LaSalle to help design and build the gazebo.

A special dedication will take place at 2 p.m. on June 29 at the

Victory Station, prior to the Music in the Park concert as an appreciation from the city to the Gregorlys for their contribution at Victory Park, as well.

"This exhibit will be in conjunction with that plaque dedication, too," said Wilson.

The exhibit, which will be open from noon to 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, will also feature a turn of the century portrait camera, a radio license to show how Park was an amateur radio operator, traveling mementos, paintings, needlework, crafts, jewelry and even a mink coat, Wilson said.

"Their daughter, Gloria Gregory-Gardner, brought in items to represent all activities of their lives, which all happen to be between the 1950s and 1960s," Wilson said. "So we're really trying to tell that story with this exhibit."

The ladies' accessories exhibit will also be on display, which includes items like hats, gloves, purses and dresses from the 1900-1960s era. For more information about either exhibit, contact the museum at (734) 697-1944.



Gloria Gregory Gardner, daughter of Park and Edna Mae Gregory, and Diane Wilson, director of the Belleville Area Museum, get ready for the new summer exhibit at the museum, which honors the Belleville historians and educators.

# Strawberry Festival offers weekend of entertainment

Ashley Dobos  
Staff Writer

This weekend, the Belleville Strawberry Festival will offer both new and returning entertainment to delight visitors to the national event.

Toe-tapping performances by artists such as the Arizona Suns will have people dancing, organizers said. A returning favorite – an Elvis tribute artist – will perform Friday night as well. There will even be guest appearances by Karen Newman and Devon Scillian.

"We're happy to have them at the festival this year," said Carla Gibson, the entertainment organizer for the festival.

Many more activities and entertainment are scheduled for

Saturday as well. Radio station 99.5 WYCD will broadcast live on Saturday until 5 p.m. Members from the station will emcee the parade as well as host the Colgate Country Showdown.

The Showdown is an annual national competition that begins with local 'Showdowns' and the winners compete regionally. Entertainers who make it past the regional competitions then compete nationally.

Also on Saturday there will be more performances by bands including the Hummingbirds, Stampede, and Blackberry Creek – a line-dancing group.

"I like to keep the old favorites, but add new people in too so [the entertainment] is new and fresh every year," said Gibson.

**"**

*Local entertainers will be performing throughout the downtown area. There will be a stage located at Main and Fourth streets, a stage at Main and Third streets, and a stage on Main Street at Frosty Boy. With three stages there will be a variety of music and entertainment...*

**Carla Gibson**

performers to come to the Strawberry Festival.

"It's a process. Over the years I've gotten to know a lot of local performers," said Gibson, who starts to plan for next year as soon as the festival ends.

Local entertainers will be performing throughout the downtown area. There will be a stage located at Main and Fourth streets, a stage at Main and Third streets, and a stage on Main Street at Frosty Boy. With three stages there will be a variety of music and entertainment for everyone to see and hear, Gibson said.

The 31st annual Belleville Strawberry Festival will take place on June 13, 14, and 15. There will be plenty of parking and admission is free.

Sunday is the day for one of the most looked forward to competitions at the Strawberry Fest – Strawberry Idol. There will be three age divisions in the contest this year, and in between divisions will be performances from past Idol winners. The contest will take place on the main stage and the

winner will receive a studio recording session provided by Talent Live Studios, Canton.

"I try to evaluate what people like at the fest," said Gibson. "What people ask for, I take into consideration."

It takes a lot of planning and organizing by Gibson to get all the

**Romulus Community School District**  
*will be accepting*

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Barth Elementary	38207 Barth Road	<b>734-532-1253</b>
Cory Elementary	35200 Smith Road	<b>734-532-1303</b>
Halecreek Elementary	16200 Harrison Road	<b>734-532-1353</b>
Merriman Elementary	15303 Merriman Road	<b>734-532-1403</b>
Romulus Elementary	32200 Beverly Road	<b>734-532-1453</b>
Wick Elementary	36900 Wick Road	<b>734-532-1503</b>
Romulus Middle School	37300 Wick Road	<b>734-532-1703</b>
Romulus Board Office	36540 Grant Road	<b>734-532-1600</b>

### Eligibility:

Students must reside in Wayne County  
The District will not accept any student who has been suspended or expelled from school within the last two years.

### Enrollment process:

Enrollment forms may be obtained **now** at any of the buildings listed above.

**Beginning June 9, 2008 through June 27, 2008:**

**Parent/legal guardian must be present at time of enrollment with the following:**  
Child's birth certificate  
Child's immunization records  
Proof of custody  
(if parent name is not listed on child's birth certificate)

# Candidate seeks to create fiscal responsibility

**Molly Tippen**  
Staff Writer

Richard Mulka, a longtime resident of Taylor and candidate for the State House of Representatives seat in District 22, said his candidacy is built on trying to change a difficult tide that has swept Michigan.

“I’m very concerned about what’s going on in Lansing,” he said. “There are problems that are specific to Romulus and Taylor, but in reality, the entire state is hurting.”

Mulka, a married father who currently works for Ford Motor Co. and owns a landscaping business, said his priorities would be finding a way to stem job loss, using sound fiscal management principles, and restoring trust among residents for members of government.

“I’m really lucky to be at Ford right now, but I see first-hand how many people are concerned about their future,” he said.

The loss of 390,000 manufacturing jobs to lower-cost states and other countries, as well as non-value-added policies instituted by the state have made the state economic outlook bleaker, he said.

Mulka also said it’s a bad idea to give up on manufacturing, even though a sharper focus is needed to try to find new businesses for the state.

“Some of the issues we have must be dealt with at the federal level, but here in Michigan, we need to make sure we do everything we can to retain new jobs,” he said. “The bottom line is that we need to make more here.”

A projected deficit in Lansing

for the next budget year is also a concern for Mulka, but he said balancing the state books on excessive staff cuts might not be the answer.

“The last thing we need to do is put more people out of work,” he said.

If elected, Mulka said he would work to make sure district residents have a loud voice in Lansing.

“I understand what average people are facing, and I’ll work to represent them,” he said.

Other issues Mulka has taken a stand on include opposing the proposed Wayne County Airport Master Plan, the importance of fixing dilapidated roads and aged infrastructure, preserving the Great Lakes, and opposing the move to make Michigan a Right-to-Work state.

Mulka also opposed the opera-

tion of deep-waste injection wells in Romulus.

A resident of Taylor for 47 years, Mulka is a master gardener who spends much time on his business, Michigan Turf, when he’s not working at Ford. He said his business is still doing well, but has taken a hit because of the difficult times in Michigan.

The candidate graduated from Truman High School in 1975, and attended classes at Henry Ford Community College, where he focused on political science. He founded Michigan Turf 22 years ago.

Mulka and his wife, Susan, are the parents of two daughters and two sons.

Mulka is also an avid environmentalist, and is a member of several associations to educate Ford



Richard Mulka

employees about issues that affect the environment.

Mulka is facing four other candidates for the seat. The primary election will take place Aug. 5.

## Calendar of events

### Chamber hosts GM plant manager

Guest speakers at the monthly Romulus Chamber of Commerce luncheon will be Rick Sutton, the plant manager of the GM Romulus Engine Plant and Larry Hice, the executive director of sales and marketing support for GM.

The luncheon will take place at the Metropolitan Hotel in Romulus on Merriman Road at noon.

To reserve tickets, call (734) 893-0694.

### Book Club in full swing

The Romulus Public Library monthly book club is now under way.

The book club meets from 7 until 8:15 p.m. on the second Monday of each month.

Refreshments will be served.

Book discussions are free and open to all age 18 and up. Participants need not register in advance.

The library will have copies of the books, or staff members will assist readers in getting an inter-library loan copy.

Remaining books that will be discussed include: A Wrinkle in Time by Madeline L'Engle on July 14 and Pontoon - A Novel of Lake Wobegon by Garrison Keillor.

The Romulus Public Library is located at 11121 Wayne Road.

For more information, call the library at (734) 942-7589.

### Flea market takes off

The Romulus Historical Society Annual Flea Market will take place from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. June 21 at the Romulus Historical Park, located next to the post office.

Proceeds from the sales of spaces will benefit activities that take place year-round at the Historical Park.

Vendors are still needed to help make the event a success.

Vendor spaces cost \$15. All participants must provide their own tables.

Food and refreshments will be available.

For more information please contact Gloria Chandler at (734) 941-2678.

### Golf outing on tap

The Mayor's Drug Task Force Golf Outing will take place Friday, July 11.

The Mayor's Drug Task Force is a non-profit organization comprised of business and civic leaders. Together, they have accepted the mission to keep the community drug-free and children safe from the harmful effects of substance abuse.

The outing will take place at the Gateway Golf Club, located at 33290 Gateway Dr., Romulus. The event will begin with an 8 a.m. shotgun start followed by lunch at the turn and dinner. Those interested in joining the event, or who need more information, are asked to call Kristin Irwin at (734) 955-4123.

— Events are compiled by Staff Writer Molly Tippen. To suggest an event, send an e-mail to [mtippen@journalgroup.com](mailto:mtippen@journalgroup.com).

## Water

FROM PAGE 1

to \$22.34, flat-rate charges will increase by \$7 to \$88, and per-day unmetered connection charges will increase from 87 cents to 94 cents.

Abbie Akins, the assistant finance director, agreed there's little that Romulus can do to stop the upward trend of water rates.

“The increases are part of what it takes to make sure the water and sewer fund is maintained,” she said.

Currently, there is \$4.5 million in unrestricted funds in the city water and sewer fund, Akins said.

Though \$4.5 million sounds like

a healthy fund balance, Akins said those funds cannot be used to defray the Detroit increases.

“There are expansions and repairs of the system that we are responsible that will occur in the near future,” she said. “We are trying to build the fund balance – we chose to maintain the fund balance.”

“When the replacement and repair projects come on line, they cost millions of dollars,” she said. “We don't want to have to rely on bonding because that's just another bill that's going to have to be paid.”

The rate increases will go into effect 10 days from the vote, which means the rates will be assessed from June 19, 2008.

## Airport

FROM PAGE 1

could stand to lose almost \$1 million in assessed revenue, according to the city. The school district could lose as much as \$1.7 million in revenue.

However, its unclear if the talks will send airport consultants back to the drawing board to find a way to expand, or if a planned vote at the regular meeting of authority officials in July will result in an approval of the plan. So far, the

vote has been delayed twice.

Mayors outside Romulus have opposed the plan because air traffic – which causes excessive noise in communities not covered by noise abatement programs – would lessen the quality of life in their cities, said Hampton.

“One of the big reasons I opposed this plan, from Inkster's perspective, is that it would cause a lot of additional noise, and noise abatement stops at Annapolis Road,” he said.

The authority board members will once again attempt to vote on the plan at the July 22 meeting.

# Hair raising Teens donate locks to help ill children

Molly Tippen  
Staff Writer

It's only hair, but to children who don't have it, it's very important.

Students at Romulus Community High School learned that lesson, and more, during the school “Hair Raiser” event, in which students and teachers parted with their locks and donated them to an organization that makes wigs for sick children.

Science teacher Karen Powell, who organized the event, said more than 8-feet of hair was donated to South Rockwood-based Children With Hair Loss, a group that makes wigs and hairpieces for children suffering from cancer, alopecia, or burns.

“The response was fantastic among our students,” she said. “There were some tears (after haircuts), but when our students thought of the children who didn't have any hair, they felt good about giving up theirs.”

Volunteer hair stylists bound up ponytails on both girls and boys to shear away long hair, Powell said. At the end of the day, more than 10 students participated in the event.

At 4 p.m., the students gathered into a classroom for a presentation of the hair to Regina Villemure, the founder of the charity.

Though many organizations collect hair for the hairless, Children With Hair Loss provides free wigs, and only requires an 8-inch band of hair from donors. The group provides hairpieces and full hair replacements to any child with any medically related hair loss until they turn 21.

The organization came to the attention of Romulus Community Schools after it aided a student at Community High School during her battle with leukemia a few years ago, Powell said.

Some students had to be convinced to give away their hair, said Powell.

“We had a presentation about what it's like not to



Student Chelsea Smallwood received a haircut from volunteer hair stylist Donna Nash of Continental Cuts in Taylor.

have hair,” she said. “Deciding to cut their hair was a process for some of the students.”

It helped a great deal that Children With Hair Loss has more liberal requirements for donors, Powell said.

“Eight inches is a lot less than some groups require,” she said. “Some require 12 inches or more, but this organization will take gray or color-treated hair, as long as it's in good condition.”

Powell was among the donors. She began growing her hair out last year in preparation for the event.

Community High School is the alternative district school. Many students who don't thrive in the typical high school environment face obstacles other students may not – such as having to work to help their family financially, or not having adequate support from adults at home.

Some of the students related to the children who are going through hard times, Powell said.

“I do think our students were more willing to listen to the problems faced by the children,” she said. “I do think there was more of an ability among our students to understand. They showed a lot of compassion.”



Hair donors Shelby Green, Megan Lawrence, Karen Powell, Angela Hopkins and Juanita Catalano all gave up their locks to help children with hair loss.

# Charter change would raise bid limits

A \$750 bid provision in the city charter is costing more money than the city would like to pay.

That's the motivation behind discussions to approve a charter amendment that would raise that amount to allow purchasing decisions to be made without red tape, said Councilman William Crova.

“Having a \$750 limit (that triggers the city bid process) is just too expensive, and it's been in place since 1975,” Crova said. “To account for inflation, that should be about \$2,500.”

Currently, the city must seek competitive bids on projects exceeding \$750. Staff members

must prepare bids, and they must be advertised in the newspaper to make sure all contractors have an opportunity to bid on work.

The costs that go into preparing the bids are significant, Crova said.

The charter change that the city finance department is looking at would give the Romulus City Council the power to set the bid limit by ordinance – which means the city could set the amount at a more appropriate level to account for inflation or deflation, Crova said.

If a new ordinance were put into place, the council would not have to go through the charter amend-

ment process, which can be time-consuming, when it would like to adjust bid limits.

The savings would come in time spent by staff members and advertising costs, Crova said.

To approve an amendment of the charter, a “super vote” must take place, which means a simple majority vote is insufficient. Of the seven council members, five must approve the amendment.

If the amendment is approved, the city attorney will draft an ordinance, which will then be discussed by council members.

After two readings, the ordinance would then be in effect.

# Wellness Walks under way

The District Wide Wellness Works walking program will continue throughout the summer at all locations of the Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD).

Participants of the program are encouraged to walk and record their progress in minutes on daily activity logs. Campus and district office building teams will be formed and total minutes walked will be recorded each week. The team with the most minutes walked by Aug. 11 will be the college walking winners.

Program guidelines include: every participant must register for this continuing education program, each participant must fill out a waiver and emergency medical

form prior to participation, activity logs must be filled out and turned into team leaders on a weekly basis, weekly handouts on wellness will be available from the team leader and walking can be done at convenience. Staff, faculty and their friends and family are eligible. The American Heart Association encourages participants to consult their physicians before any new exercise program, including diet changes and medicine.

The program started last week and will continue through Aug. 11. Times vary per campus and district office building. For more information, contact Jeff Anderson at the western campus at (734) 694-5180 or Judy Smouter at (313) 496-2858, or visit [www.wcccd.edu](http://www.wcccd.edu).



## Golden girls

The Girlstown Foundation in Belleville was recently honored by the City of Belleville for their many years of service in the community. The organization turned 50 years old this year and celebrated their birthday with a fundraiser at the Soaring Eagle last weekend. The childcare agency was founded by the Federation of Michigan Women's Club and now offers foster care, transitional treatment and independent living.

# National Strawberry Festival pageants return tomorrow

Ashley Dobos  
Staff Writer

After a brief hiatus, the 31st annual Belleville Strawberry Festival “royalty” pageants are back.

The Strawberry Prince and Princess contest will take place at noon tomorrow at South Middle School. Contestants must live in Belleville, Sumpter, or Van Buren township to participate. P & P Dance Studio organized the pageant.

The National Strawberry Queen pageant will take place at 7:30

tomorrow night at the Belleville High School auditorium. Angela Kerner, who organized the pageant for the last eight years, will be the emcee. This will be organizer Jennifer Leonard’s first year at the helm of the Strawberry Queen pageant.

“It’s going pretty good,” said Leonard. “I’m really excited and enjoying it so far, but it’s getting to be a nail biter.”

Five women between the ages of 16 and 20 will vie for the Strawberry Queen title. The pageant started

”  
*It's going pretty good. I'm really excited and enjoying it so far, but it's getting to be a nail biter.*  
**Jennifer Leonard**

with seven contestants, but two were not able to make it to the pageant practices because of other time constraints.

Judges, who cannot be affiliated with any of the contestants, vary each year and may even be from out-

side the Belleville area, organizers said.

Contestants have been practicing since the beginning of May and have had about 14 two-hour rehearsals. The contestants will also perform a group dance, choreographed by

Chelsea Harris. Cash prizes will be awarded to the winner and runner up of the pageant. There will also be gift certificates to local restaurants and complimentary photos from Once Upon a Memory photography.

The pageants did not take place last year, due to a lack of funding. The event is paid for with donations from local businesses and groups. This year, The Faith Assembly Church donated \$1,200, which paid for the entire pageant, organizers said.

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL HELD MAY 27, 2008 IN THE ROMULUS CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER 11111 S. WAYNE ROAD, ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48174.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Pro Tem William Wadsworth.  
Present: John Barden, LeRoy Burcroff, Harry Crout, William Crova, William Wadsworth.  
Excused: Ellen Craig-Bragg, Randolph Gear.  
Administrative Officials in Attendance:  
Alan Lambert, Mayor  
Linda R. Choate, Clerk  
Pamela Morrison/Kersey, CMFA, Treasurer

1. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-150

2. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Crout to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held May 12, 2008.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Abstain - Barden  
Motion Carried.

08-151

3A. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Crout to grant Taste, Inc. (a California Corporation) and Wayne County Airport Authority (Co-Licensees) a new tavern license issued under MCL 436.1531 (10) & SDM license in conjunction to be located at McNamara Terminal, Detroit Metro Airport, Space L-16, Romulus, Michigan 48242, Wayne County (ID #440497).

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-152

4A1. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Barden to concur with the recommendation of legal council regarding International Outdoors vs City of Romulus.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-153

4A2. Motion by Crout, supported by Crova to re-schedule no-fee City Wide Yard Sale from May 15 -18, 2008 to May 29, through June 1, 2008.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

4. Motion by Barden, supported by Crout to accept the Chairpersons Report.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-154

5A. Motion by Crova, supported by Crout to concur with the recommendation of Kristen Irwin, Parks and Recreation Director, legal counsel, and the Administration to adopt a resolution to grant authorization for the Mayor and Clerk to enter into an agreement with Wayne County for the Mary Ann Banks Park Funding Provision.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-155

5B1. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Crout to concur with the recommendation of Robert McCraight, Assistant Building & Safety Director to rescind bid award 07/08-07, awarded to Oakwood Building Company due to failure to execute the demolition contract.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-156

5B2. Motion by Burcroff, supported Crout to re-award bid 07/08-07 to the next lowest qualified bidder, VanAssche Construction in the amount of \$33,525.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-157

5C. Motion by Barden, supported by Crout to concur with the recommendation of Purchasing Coordinator, Lynn Conway, and David Allison, Fire Chief to extend bid award bid 05/06-36, for the purchase of three (3) sets of turn out gear to the only lowest bidder, Alert Emergency Equipment in the amount of \$4,873.89 (\$1,624.66 per set).

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-158

5D. Motion by Crova, supported by Barden to concur with the recommendation of Purchasing Coordinator, Lynn Conway and Fire Chief, David Allison to award bid 07/08-24, two (2) extrication rescue tools and accessory kits for the City of Romulus Fire Department to the only bidder, West Shore Fire Inc., in the amount of \$3,656.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth,  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-159

5E. Motion by Barden, supported by Crout to concur with the recommendation of Purchasing coordinator, Lynn Conway and Fire Chief, David Allison to authorize the purchase of a replacement “Firepup” costume for the Romulus Fire Department from the sole source vendor, the National Fire Safety Council, Inc., in the amount of \$1,375.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-160

5F. Motion by Burcroff, supported Barden to concur with the recommendation of Purchasing Coordinator, Lynn Conway and Tom Wilson, DPW Director, to award bid 07/08-27, DCC Consortium Cold Patch Bid for the Department of Public Works to the lowest bidder, Ajax Materials Corporation at a per ton price of \$86.50 delivered and \$85 pick up.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-161

5G. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Barden to concur with the recommendation of Purchasing Coordinator, Lynn Conway and DPW Director, Tom Wilson, to authorize the purchase of radio readers, meters, meters with readers and registers from the sole source vendor, SLC Meter Services, Inc., and to establish SLC as the City’s vendor for the purchase of all residential and commercial meter equipment until such time that the City might replace their existing system.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-162

5H1. Motion by Barden, supported by Crova to concur with the Administration to approve the re-appointment of Emery Long as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term to expire on June 30, 2011.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-163

5H2. Motion by Barden, supported by Crout to concur with the Administration to approve the re-appointment of John Clark as alternate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term to expire on June 30, 2010.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-164

6A1. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff to schedule a one hour Charter Amendment Workshop on Monday, June 9, 2008 at 6:15 p.m., to be held in the City Council Chambers, located at 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan, 48174.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-165

11. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Barden to authorize the City Treasurer to disburse funds as listed in Warrant 08-10 in the grand total of Seven Hundred, Forty Nine Thousand, Four Hundred Fifty Nine Dollars and Seventy Three Cents (\$749,459.73).

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Abstain - Crova.  
Motion Carried.

12. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Burcroff to adjourned the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.  
Nays - None.  
Motion Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Eva Webb, Deputy Clerk  
City of Romulus, Michigan

I, Eva W. Webb, Deputy Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held n May 27, 2008.

Eva W. Webb, Deputy City Clerk  
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: June 12, 2008

# OPINION

## City fireworks displays are needed reminder

As we went to press on Tuesday night, Wayne City Council members pondered whether to bring back the annual fireworks celebration this year.

Officials from Oakwood Annapolis Hospital pitched the idea to the city and members of the Wayne Chamber of Commerce last week; the concept was to have the business community completely sponsor the event. Oakwood offered to donate the first \$5,000 toward the \$18,000 day-long event that traditionally takes place on the final Wednesday in June.

As of Tuesday, they only had half the money guaranteed, but they hadn't heard back from several other potential sponsors, so the city council members met in a special session that night to determine if the city could afford to pay whatever wasn't covered through business donations.

The outcome of that meeting wasn't known at press time, but it's our hope that they voted for it.

It's a sad commentary on our times that this decision might even be controversial. Let's face it though, the city eliminated funding for the fireworks last year for what the council thought was a good reason: because they couldn't justify it in the face of a shrinking budget that threatened employee layoffs.

This year, council members have once again talked about the same things. The budget approved last month shows fewer employees and reduced hours for others. Some may wonder about the expenditure, given that situation.

But come on, it's the Fourth of July. We don't want to live in a country where a city can't chip in a relatively small amount of money to help celebrate the birth of our nation.

Besides, these kinds of events are important during difficult economic times. We're all stressed out. Celebrating a national holiday can help us forget our troubles for a time and remember the importance of those who gave their lives to forge this nation and those who continue to keep it safe.

It's a good idea for the city to loosen its purse strings here because we're only talking about a few thousand dollars. That being said, though, we hope a concerted effort still takes place to secure as many donations or sponsorships as possible. If those efforts stop merely because the city steps in it will be virtually impossible to bring the event back in subsequent years.

For now, though, it's OK for the city to help provide a little patriotic stress relief, even if it's just to spend a night staring up and remembering better times.

## Time to go back to class

The budget picture for school districts across the state is looking clearer and clearer, and it isn't pretty.

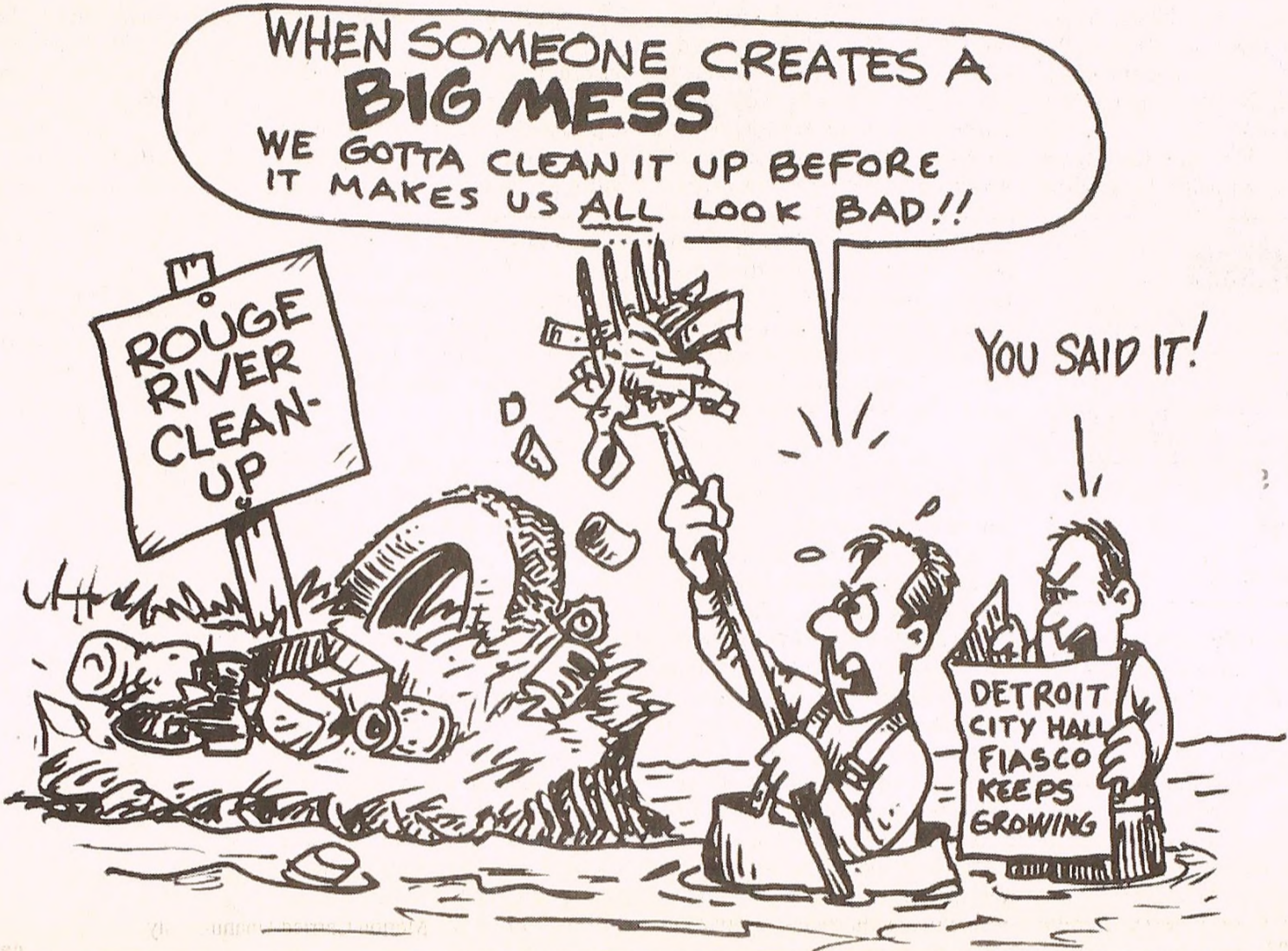
The Northville Public Schools, the Plymouth-Canton Public Schools, the Wayne-Westland Community School District—all are trying to figure out their budget picture for the next school year. Amidst a swirl of uncertainty, they're trying to come up with a way to provide the same services without impacting the classroom experience.

And any of them can tell you, it's not easy. All are looking at drastic measures—layoffs, union concessions, even privatization of some services in Northville—in the face of declining revenue and escalating costs.

In most cases, they can't do much about either. Increases in areas like utility bills, salaries, health care costs and the state-mandated retirement system have eroded their flexibility. At the same time they're dealing with declining enrollment, not only because of increased competition from charter schools, but because people are flat out leaving the state due to the poor economy.

The state Legislature has not helped the situation. They've imposed a new business tax structure that even they're not sure about—a move that was designed to entice businesses to expand, relocate or start up in Michigan has only caused more confusion. They promised an increase in per-pupil funding that would not cover the increase in expenses and then hedged on that promise, too. All the while they're punishing school districts now for the fiscal responsibility they've shown in the past by causing them to eat away at their rainy day fund.

There's no easy solution to this mess. Here's an idea, though. Legislators like showing students from their district around the capital, giving them an up close view of their jobs. Perhaps they should take time out and attend a school board meeting or two and witness the passion parents and teachers alike show for their extended school family. Maybe then they'd be a little more willing to listen, to work hard and get things straightened out.



## Homeowners may see a hollow victory

Even if residents and officials in Romulus are successful in their attempts to change or postpone the expansion plan at Metro Airport, they will most likely come out on the losing side of the equation.

Homeowners may be able to save their homes, but they won't be able to save the value of their homes.

Their victory, in short, may be a

hollow one.

That's unfortunate for all those impacted, of course, but it hits those who had been trying to sell their homes before this mess started particularly hard. They faced a difficult market to begin with. Now, any hope of recouping the investment they made in their homes is all but gone.

It's beginning to look like officials at the airport developed

their concept plan too quickly, with too little foresight, and promoted it a little too soon. The result was a concept that took too great a toll on the community and brought back little benefit for it. It demolished the market in a portion of the city—since the plan would have impacted about 800 residences, including apartment complexes and single-family homes.

It's difficult to say what can be offered those homeowners as way of compensation, since an apology isn't going to help the matter any. Perhaps the painful lesson learned here is to think of people first and profits second.

The expansion of the airport may well provide an economic boon to the region, but it shouldn't do so at the expense of those who should have benefited from it.

## A little piece of paradise right here

The Rouge River is breathing a little easier today, after a flurry of activities that took place Saturday.

The annual River Rescue day organized by the Friends of the Rouge drew hundreds of volunteers across the watershed to do everything from cleaning out invasive plant species, constructing bird and bat houses, garbage removal and just plain looking around.

It's a good thing

The river has come a long way in the past two decades, when it was named one of the most polluted waterways in the state, if not

the nation. A big part of that recovery is the effort of the Friends and the 20-year-history of the event. I'm not saying I'd go take a dip in it or anything or munch on anything I managed to pull out of its asparagus-colored depths, but there are plenty of signs that the water is a lot healthier now than it was even a few years ago.

True, the river will probably always remain a natural dumping ground for some lazy or inconsiderate bonehead. There will probably always be shopping carts, tires and other debris to pull out

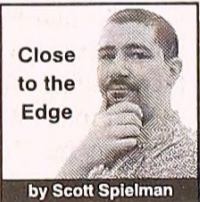
of the water, or log jams to clear up as all the dead ash trees fall over.

The best way to cut down on that activity is already under way, though, and that's to bring more amenities close to it. The more people know about this underappreciated gem, the better. That's why I think features like the newly-opened recreational trail in Canton Township, which boasts a handicapped accessible main path and mountain biking paths originating from it, and the efforts to improve Dynamite Park in Wayne are so important.

For those who haven't been down to those areas, it is easy to describe but hard to believe. There's an idyllic setting right in our own back yard; literally dozens of yards from one of the busiest thoroughfares in Wayne County, nestled between neighborhoods and close to shopping districts.

In Wayne, it is host to the largest Cottonwood tree in the state. Everywhere, it is home to creatures you wouldn't expect to

See **Paradise**, page 6



Close to the Edge

by Scott Spielman

## Beware, friends, the end is near

So the headline is a little discouraging, but it's not what you think.

OK, maybe it is just a little.

Al Gore, from an environmentalist point of view, leads us to believe that the end is closer than we think. He talks about global warming and the planet falling to pieces and how everyone needs to do their part to save it. But who, other than the wealthy, can afford to live the environmentally friendly life anyway?

The real inconvenient truth is that it takes green—and a lot of it—to live green.

Last month I spent almost \$150 on energy efficient light bulbs. Yes, **LIGHT BULBS!!!** And I bought a 25-dollar aluminum water canister so that I'm not chucking plastic into

landfills. Hey, baby steps all right?

Mr. Gore needs to put his money where his mouth is. If this is such an important topic he needs to take those millions of dollars that his documentary grossed and use the stature that the Nobel prize gained him and crusade and find a way to make living a true "green" existence more affordable.

Granted there's probably at least a few million years left before the environment goes kaput, so let's touch on a few other problems we face every day.

The country's leading economists and crazy Mad Money guys describe the national economy and talk of the stock market with words like 'sagging.' That, along with gloom and despair, is what I see in

the mirror every morning.

For me, I'll turn to the Jared Subway diet for my sagging problems. If only it would work for the economy.

On top of that the National Unemployment Rate increased to 5.5 percent and 49,000 jobs were reported lost in the May. The DOW Jones fell big time last week as the price of crude oil went up.

Things can't be too bad if my brother, who has been out of work since September, took a trip to the Caribbean this month.

Although the economy is in about as good of shape as I am, it

See **Green**, page 6



From the cheap seats

by Jeff Novak

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The Journal Newspapers are published Thursdays  
at 35540 Michigan Ave., Wayne, Michigan, 48184.

Central office hours are 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

**Phone 734-467-1900**

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Letters

**Privatization plan criticized**

To the editor:

It appears Northville Public Schools is having difficulty getting its priorities straight with providing the best education possible for students.

The debate has gone on for over a year now regarding privatizing transportation, food service and custodial services.

District officials have proclaimed that the money saved from privatizing will be able to buy textbooks and other needed supplies for the classroom.

In the April 15, 2008 press release from the school district, Dr. (Leonard) Rezmierski states that the district would not even consider privatization if it weren't for the budget challenges and economic downturn.

"We have great employees and great service in all of these support areas right now," Dr. Rezmierski said. "We wouldn't even be considering privatization if not for the budgetary challenges faced by the school district and the fact that, given the state's sagging economy, our financial situation is unlikely to improve any time soon."

If this is true, then why was a third assistant principal hired at the

high school and why were the administrators granted a 2 percent raise by the board members after the teacher's union made huge sacrifices?

I find it disappointing that administrators are being placed first instead of the students. After all, a school district is a non-profit organization. How can administrators be placed before educating students for the 21st Century?

Why should support staff who have done a wonderful job cleaning the school buildings, serving healthy food and transporting students safely to and from school jobs be put at risk?

Maybe instead of privatizing the support staff, the administrators could give back the 2 percent increase that was given to them earlier this school year. Also, perhaps the union could make concessions to have a guarantee savings for the school district.

Instead of privatization, district officials should look at the efficiency of the support services currently in place in Northville Public Schools. Farmington Public Schools formed committees in the fall of 2006 to see where efficiency could be achieved

to keep their costs down. Northville may benefit from doing the same thing.

Privatizing may seem to be a quick fix for cost savings, but could eventually lead to future problems. The only way cost savings is going to be obtained is by keeping support services in-house and striving for efficiency.

Blake Govan,  
Northville

**Annexation protested**

To the editor:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed annexation of the former Northville Hospital Psych property to Livonia.

I have never been more disappointed in the political process and in our elected leaders than I have been in hearing about this underhanded process from these developers. To suggest that Northville voters have no say in what happens to this property is absolutely absurd. Livonia will clearly vote in favor of this annexation at the expense of all Northville Township property owners. In addition, they will have no interest in what hap-

pens to this property as there are no Livonia residential developments adjoining this property or even in the vicinity.

It is unbelievable that nothing can be done to stop this annexation from occurring and addressing this loophole which ultimately favors these unscrupulous developers and Livonia.

Michael Jaspersen,  
Northville Township

**Candidate is supported**

To the editor:

I was very disappointed in the article in the Westland Eagle "Familiar names file for primary election" by Meghan Chapman. In that article Joan Gebhardt is listed as one of the candidates who filed for Wayne County Commissioner, District 12. Not a single detail about this well-qualified candidate was provided.

Joan Gebhardt has dedicated her life to public service. She currently serves as an elected member of the Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees. In that election, she placed first among the four candidates elected. Her fellow Trustees elected

her to SEMCOG (Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments). As a Schoolcraft Trustee, Gebhardt oversees a \$69,000,000 budget.

Gebhardt is a life-long resident of Wayne County. For 35 years she has been a homeowner in District 12. She and her husband Fred raised her children here. She retired after 30 years as a public school teacher and principal. Gebhardt was proud to serve as president of her union (AFL-CIO Local 60). Currently she works for Speaker of the House Andy Dillon in constituent services.

I know that no one will work harder for all of us than Joan Gebhardt. I have seen her commitment and dedication at work. She embodies the very best in the Democratic Party — honesty, compassion and so much more.

On Aug. 5th I will vote for a proven leader, Joan Gebhardt.

Nan Melke  
Westland

Editor's note: As stated in the candidate announcement story, all candidates will be profiled prior to the election.

Paradise

FROM PAGE 5

find in this zip code. It is a piece

of northern life right under our noses and it deserves the attention and respect of any national park. Take a trip down there, breathe the nature and enjoy the silence. Look at the trees and listen to the water. Then you, too,

will get offended at every scrap of paper; every errant tire, construction barrel or shopping cart. And you, too, will feel the need to clean it up, not just on the first Saturday in June, but every day of the year.

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The Journal Newspapers welcomes all letters to the editor. Letters should be addressed to: The Editor, The Journal Newspapers, 35540 Michigan Ave., Wayne, Michigan 48184.

All letters will be considered for publication and may be edited for content, space and length.

Green

FROM PAGE 5

doesn't mean the end is near—whatever the end really means. It's bad but it will recover. It always has.

However, there are the soaring gas prices—the one thing that could break this country's back.

Did you know that some gas stations charge an average of seven to 10 cents more per gallon if you choose to use the convenience of a credit card service that they choose to provide for their customers over paying with cash? First, isn't that discrimination against the color of my payment method? Second, who carries cash anymore these days?

If you only want customers to pay with only greenbacks you need to discontinue the credit card service all together and see where that lands you, almighty gatekeepers of the gas. (Actually, I think that's what my family use to call Uncle Pullmyfinger.)

If only there were a way to alleviate the pain at the pump. Gas-X is sure to help in regards to the Subway diet but I doubt it will relieve sticker shock at the station.

Although the gas prices are soaring, it's not a sign that the end is near. I'm just thoroughly convinced that it all comes down to greed. It's obvious that CEO of Oil Company X can't live on the \$400 million dollar-plus salary he makes per year, let alone fill up the enormous gas tank of his SUV, so he jacks up the price

of oil to make more money. That's a vicious cycle—live within your means, man!

So here it is. We as consumers have to be smart as to what we spend out money on. If you think about it all three topics—environment, economy and gas—are related.

If we all choose to drive less it will cut down on pollution, making Mr. Gore happy; put more money in our pockets and not Oil Company X's bank account, forcing lower prices; and afford us the few extra dollars to buy stuff like, I don't know, light bulbs to help turn the economy and environment around.

Bright idea?

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Grange seeking 'art' volunteers

Members of the Plymouth-Westland Grange 389 are searching for art lovers willing to help create an art show for children.

The proposed art show for school-aged children has been a goal for the organization for the past several years, but the club needs help in order to make it a reality.

"We're looking at having it in October," said Grange President Sharon Strebbling. "We've even got someone willing to open up their building for us."

The main sticking point, she said, would be ensuring that there are enough volunteers available to help plan the event to make it doable for the relatively small community group.

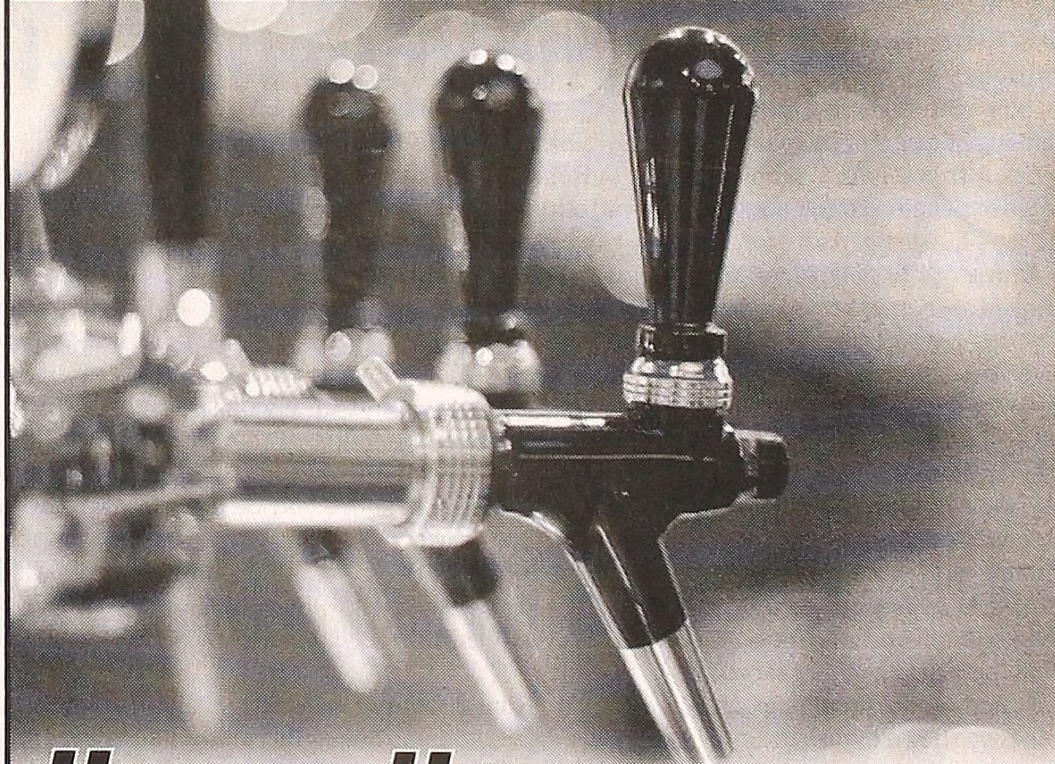
"I'd really like to see this come back," she said.

She said that Grange members are actively seeking members of the community willing to help out either by giving some time to help plan the show or by volunteering to help out during the show. One major need, she said, will be for art teachers and artists willing to donate their time as judges for the competition.

The exact dates for the proposed show have not yet been determined and will be decided in part by the availability of volunteers.

The organization is also searching for businesses or individuals who may be willing to donate a prize, or money to purchase prizes, for show winners.

For more information, call Strebbling at (734) 722-4857.



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- \$1.00 Off All Well Drinks

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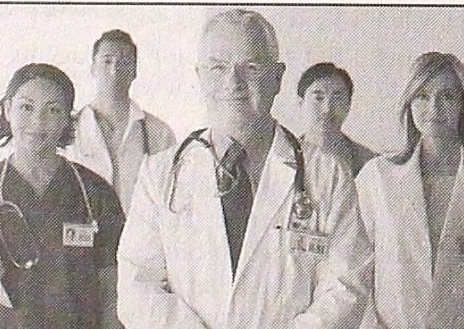


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# THE SCENE

## Sex and the City is still Fabulous

If there were only two words allowed to describe the new *Sex and the City* movie, they would be: simply fabulous.

But that's easier said if you're a true fan of the HBO original series.

Although the start of the movie seems somewhat forced and, dare I say even a little awkward. Like the infamous role of Carrie Bradshaw played by Sarah Jessica Parker, the four ladies: Kim Cattrall (Samantha Jones), Cynthia Nixon (Miranda Hobbes) and Kristin Davis (Charlotte York) soon ease back into their hit TV series roles to deliver just what fans (and maybe people who just know about the show) want and expect: explicit language, a dash of nudity, cocktail sipping, super-stylish fashions and, of course, a dash of sex.

The movie starts four years after the series left off, with Carrie shopping for something bigger than just a promising pair of Manolos: an apartment to share with her love Mr. Big (Chris Noth). Meanwhile Miranda, aka mother, lawyer, wife and about to lose her mind, is dealing with her rocky marriage to Steve (David Eigenberg) while they live in the depths of Brooklyn. On the other hand, Charlotte continues to live her picture-perfect life with husband, Harry (Evan Handler), and their adopted daughter, Lily, on the upper-east side of Manhattan. Then there's Samantha who jumped the island of Manhattan to move out to L.A. with her movie-star hottie Smith (Jason Lewis) and even though she's managing his career, she still finds time to fly to New York just about every week.

But even cosmopolitans couldn't numb the pain and realities of life and love that soon sets into the four ladies lives. That's when other key characters return, like wedding planner Anthony Marentino (Mario Cantone), gal-pal Stanford Blatch (Willie Garson) and *Vogue* editor Enid Frick (Candace Bergen). Newcomer Jennifer Hudson, who plays Carrie's apparently much-needed assistant, Louise, is also added to the list.

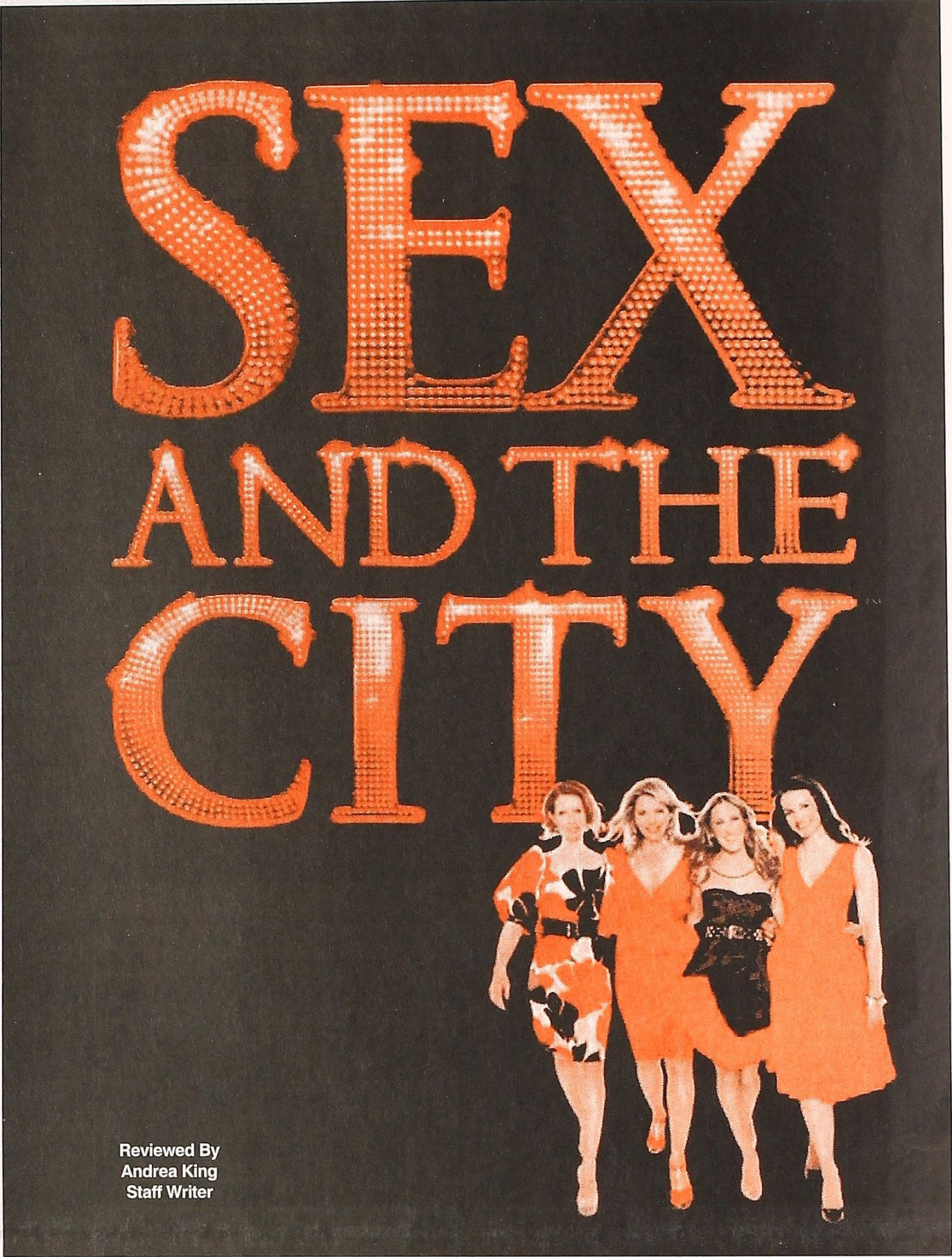
Without giving away too much 'sexy' information, in about two and a half hours the movie basically answers any questions fans might have had from the show. Small secrets are revealed, and the spark of cynicism mixed with every happiness is still intact.

Audiences can't help but get pulled back into all the melodrama because there is just enough plot to push the envelope.

There's plenty of love, laughs, tears, suspense, over-the-top outfits and label dropping. However, through it all, the underlying message seems to be that friends truly are forever. At least they are in this little city.

Fans who are worried that the movie will be a spoiler to the TV series can rest assured it just isn't so. Viewers will all 'heart' *Sex and the City*, not just in New York. And yet the 'Big' question could be will there be more 'sex' in the city someday down the road?

Only martinis and Manolos will tell.



Reviewed By  
Andrea King  
Staff Writer

# CLASSIFIED

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**1. Obituaries**

FARLEY, Hayward, June 9, 2008 age 91 of Wayne. Beloved husband of the late Bessie, Dear father of Vic (Sharon), Wayne (Pat), Barbara (Wallace) Shell, Harold (Diane), Odell, Gail (Walter) Shell and Leroy (Donna). Brother of the late Ester Middleton, Buck, Viola Trent, Ore Hansen, George and Geneva Phillips. Grandfather of 17, Great grandfather of 48, great great grandfather of one. Services were held Thursday, June 12, 2008 at the Uht Funeral Home, Westland with Pastor Don Hansen officiating. Burial was at Cadillac Memorial Gardens Cemetery West, Westland.

HOUCK, Kenneth A. June 10, 2008 age 50 of Westland. Beloved husband of Cathy. Loving dad of Brook and Lindsey. Dear brother of Max M. Houck and Georgina (Hugh) Burns. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Services Friday, June 13, 2008, 11:30 am at the Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood, Westland, with Pastor Bob McDonald officiating. Burial at Glenwood Cemetery, Wayne. Family will receive friends at the funeral home Thursday 1 - 9 pm. Please visit and post a note of condolence at [www.uhtfh.com](http://www.uhtfh.com)

WARD, Thomas Perry, age 82, of Westland died peacefully in his sleep on June 3, 2008. Beloved husband of his dear Mary. Loving father of May and Jimmy Williams. Caring uncle to many nieces and nephews. Preceded in death by his parents William and Lula Ward and four brothers and sisters. Visitation and Services were held at Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Wayne followed by burial at Glenwood Cemetery.

**6. Legal Notices**

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10:45 a.m.

**59. Auctions**

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction on June 25, 2008 at 11:00 AM at:

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8964 Inkster Rd.  
Romulus, MI 48174

TRL  
Unknown VIN

1988 GMC  
1GDL7D1Y8JV503375

Fruehaul  
FWN169408

TRL  
Unknown VIN

Fruehaul  
FWJ386204

1999 Etrnyre  
Unknown VIN

1991 Plymouth  
1P3XA5632MF525932

1990 Buick  
1G4HP54C0LH512732

1992 GMC  
1GTEC14HNZ530428

1996 Dodge  
3P3ES47C8TT218864

1992 Cadillac  
1G6KS53B9NU815152

1990 Pontiac  
1G2JB14K0L7565364

2004 Hyundai  
KMHHN65F74U145261

1986 Chevrolet  
1J1MR685XG827215

2008 Jeep  
1J8HG48K98C166595

1994 Mercury  
3MABM153KR641143

1996 Utility  
1UYVS2536TP067701

1996 Pontiac  
1G2JB124XT7579843

1999 Ford  
1FAFP13P6XW130916

1988 Chevrolet  
1GBDM1529TB254562

Please Note: The bidding will start at the towing and storage charges

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9:00AM

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# SPORTS

## Plymouth upsets Northville, 5-2

Jeff Novak  
Staff Writer

Anything beyond districts wasn't written in the stars for Northville this spring.

The Mustangs' bad luck in the post season and Plymouth's Cinderella run in it continued when the Lady Wildcats beat the Lady Mustangs, 4-2, in a regional semifinal game at Birmingham Seaholm on Saturday.

Northville soccer fell to Ann Arbor Huron on Thursday (see related story) and the baseball team fell to Novi in the district tournament a week earlier.

Saturday's loss was tough because the Lady Mustangs didn't allow Plymouth a single run in the teams' first three meetings this year.

It came down to the Lady Cats' bats being hot and Northville was not.

Northville had hits but they just weren't hard enough or long enough. The ones they did get were too late.

"We just didn't play our 'A' game today," said Northville Coach Teryn Chrzanowski. "We made some mistakes and they capitalized on them. We hit the ball hard and we just waited to the end to get some runs in. Just about everyone was still getting their bat on the ball. We were just hitting it right to them."

Northville scored both of its runs at the top of the seventh after trailing 4-0.

Senior Megan Hofmeister start-

ed things out in the seventh with a single. Junior Mariel Wilson was hit by pitch and took first, moving Hofmeister to second. Senior Jenna Dunbleton knocked Hofmeister in on a single.

Wilson moved to third and Dunbleton to second on a pass ball. Senior Brittany Birdsall loaded the bases when she was walked.

Junior catcher Sarah Rounsifer was intentionally walked for the third time, allowing Wilson to score, making it a 4-2 game with two outs. The rally ended when senior Alexandra Kaszuba popped out.

After three and a half scoreless innings Plymouth finally got things going in its favor.

Sophomore shortstop Stacey Klonowskigot was on with a single and stole second and scored the Wildcats' first run against Northville when freshman outfielder Jessica Bondy nailed a double. Then junior second baser Beth Heldmyer ripped a double to score Bondy and make it a 2-0 game.

Plymouth's offensive rally continued in the sixth. Freshman utility player Marissa Blassic hit the teams third double in two innings and scored on a single by junior catcher Erin Rhodes. Bondy made it a 4-0 contest when she knocked Rhodes in on a single.

That was enough for the Lady Wildcats to move on to the regional finale against Lakeland.

Senior hurler Meghan

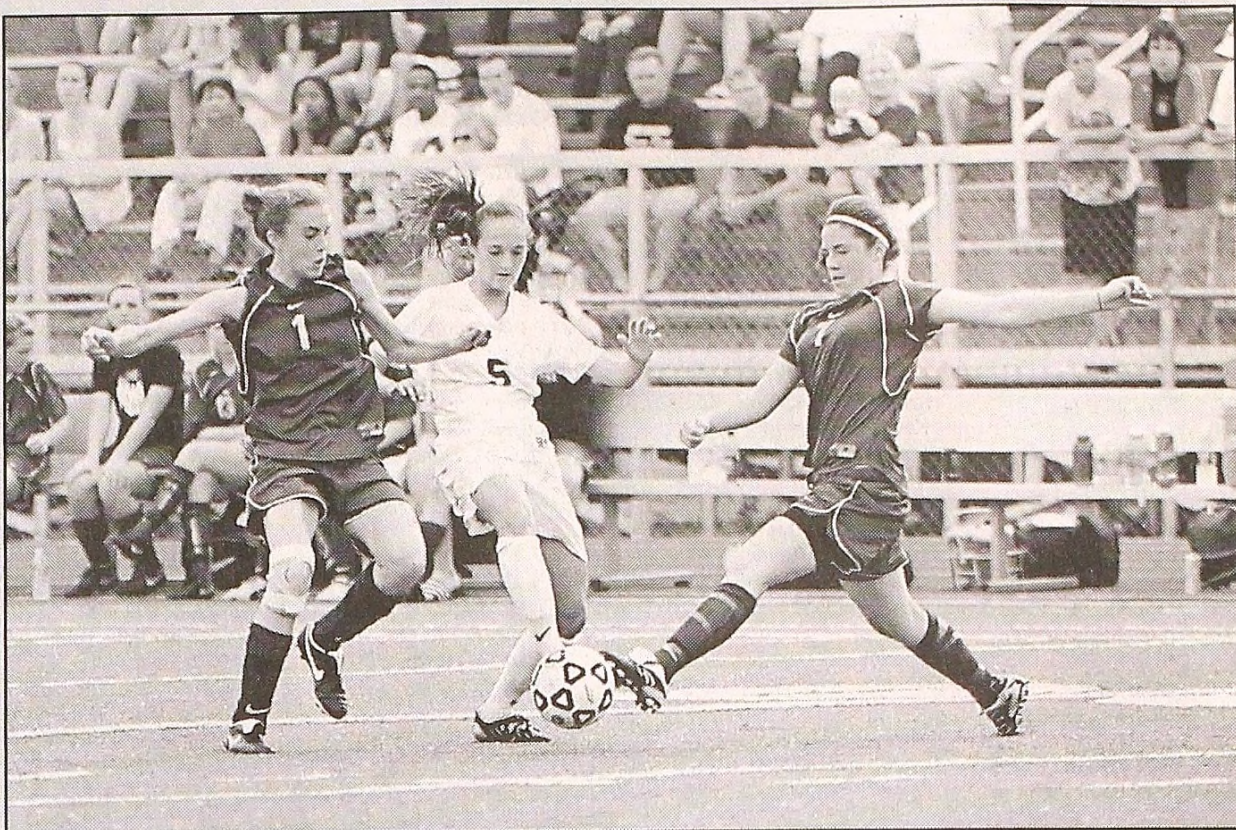
See **Softball**, page 12



Northville senior pitcher Allison Holmes pitched a solid game against Plymouth in a regional semifinal on Saturday at Birmingham Seaholm but the offense couldn't get going. The Lady Mustangs fell 5-2.



Plymouth junior catcher Erin Rhodes rounds second in the Lady Wildcats' regional victory over Northville on Saturday.



Northville senior Sarah Stern (5) was double and triple teamed most of the afternoon by Ann Arbor Huron defenders in the regional championship at Livonia Stevenson on Thursday. Northville lost the game, 1-0, in a shootout.

## Lady Mustang kickers fall to Huron in shootout

Jeff Novak  
Staff Writer

It wasn't how the season was supposed to end for the Northville soccer team.

The Lady Mustangs were the ones expected to hoist the regional championship trophy on their shoulders and carry it off of Livonia Stevenson's field. They were the ones anticipating playing in the state finals.

Everything was going as planned until Thursday.

Northville was undefeated. The Mustangs won the conference championship and added a district crown to the shelf. They just beat their nemesis Novi two days earlier—and everyone knows that whoever wins the Northville- Novi bout goes on to play for the state championship. That's how the machine works.

Right? Not this time.

This time Ann Arbor Huron threw a wrench in the gearbox and upset the No. 1 one team in the state when they beat Northville, 1-0, in the regional finale at neutral site Stevenson on Thursday.

The game remained scoreless for 110 full minutes, sending the epic showdown to a shootout.

Five shooters and a goalie from each team reluctantly took to the field to alternate the final 10 shots of the game.

Huron went first and took a 3-2 lead with goals by seniors Beth Archer, Ashley Sienko and junior Helen Steinhauser. Junior Jeanette Dolmetsch and sophomore Tori Wright scored for Northville.

That left Northville senior Lisa Kozub alone with insurmountable pressure on her shoulders with the forlorn conclusion that if she misses Northville goes home empty-handed.

The gray sky was just a sign of the gloom to follow.

Someone must have done something to upset the soccer gods that day or the Huron players did something favorable (or sold their Adidas soles). As Kozub fired her shot—aimed for the vulnerable upper right-hand corner of the goal—a gust of wind whipped around the solid concrete stadium grandstands and lifted it high and right.

"They had that huge emotional win over Novi the other day—anything after that was going to be a let down and they came out really flat and didn't play possession ball," said Northville Coach Ron Meteyer. "The second half was much better and overtime was much better and we've been practicing penalty kicks for three weeks probably."

"I hate to see it come to that," he added about the shootout. "Anytime you have a team sport

that comes down to a one-on-one situation is just anticlimactic. I say keep them going until they all can't get up in the morning."

Huron dominated the first half. Ann Arbor had quality chances with 18:21 and 17:14 left in the first half but it was Northville sophomore goalkeeper Elana Rysnar that kept the contest scoreless. She worked harder in the first 30 minutes of this game than in any other the entire season.

"She's the one that kept us in the game," Meteyer said of the young goalkeeper. "That kid played her heart out."

Junior defenders Kelsey Baskins and Nicole Miller did outstanding jobs on defense. Baskins stymied several Huron breakaway opportunities herself.

Northville had ample opportunities to score but couldn't find

the back of the net. Sophomore speed demon Lauren Lokey had the best opportunity in the second half that went off the crossbar. Senior Theresa Yankovich had a chance in the first but it went just wide and senior Sarah Stern had two quality chances in regulation that were uncharacteristically off their mark.

"It should have been ours but sometimes you just can't buy a goal for the love of the money," Meteyer said. "It was a disappointment but we have another year and we'll have a good squad next year, too."

Meteyer graduates eight seniors this month but will have a load of talent back. Defense and goalkeeping will remain strong and players like Lokey and juniors Jill Alumbaugh and Kathleen

See **Soccer**, page 12



Northville senior Theresa Yankovich (22) makes a move against Ann Arbor Huron's Helen Steinhauser on Thursday.



Northville goalkeeper Elana Rysnar makes a big stop against Ann Arbor Huron on Thursday to keep the game scoreless. Rysnar, only a sophomore, is a key component for the Lady Mustangs coming back next year.

## SPORTS

# Canton hitters fall short in regional championship

Jeff Novak  
Staff Writer

After winning their first district championship in 19 years and just beating a competitive Novi team a few hours earlier, the Canton Chief baseball team didn't want to cap off its stellar season with a 12-1 loss to Brother Rice in the regional final.

But that's how the chips fell when Canton and BR met for the championship game at Birmingham Seaholm on Saturday afternoon.

Coming into the tournament, Brother Rice was hailed a superior hitting team with mediocre pitching.

The Warriors definitely proved they could hit. They jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first inning. Brother Rice put the vice on Canton in the second, scoring six

more runs to go up, 7-1.

With bases loaded, Warrior sophomore Pat MacKenzie walked, allowing freshman Jimmy Pickens to score uncontested. Then a wild pitch sent junior Alex Charles scrambling home to make it a 4-1 game and senior Andy Lentz scored on a fielder's choice. Junior Steve Hodgins unleashed a triple to send MacKenzie home.

That spurred a change on the mound. Wright was out and junior Dane Staples was in.

Staples' first pitch was a wild one that Hodgins scored on to bring the total to 7-1.

In the fifth the Warriors scored three runs on a one-out double from Charles. That forced another change on the mound. Junior Zane Birchler came in for Canton. MacKenzie drilled a double to score Charles and Lentz scored on

a fly out to finish off the scoring.

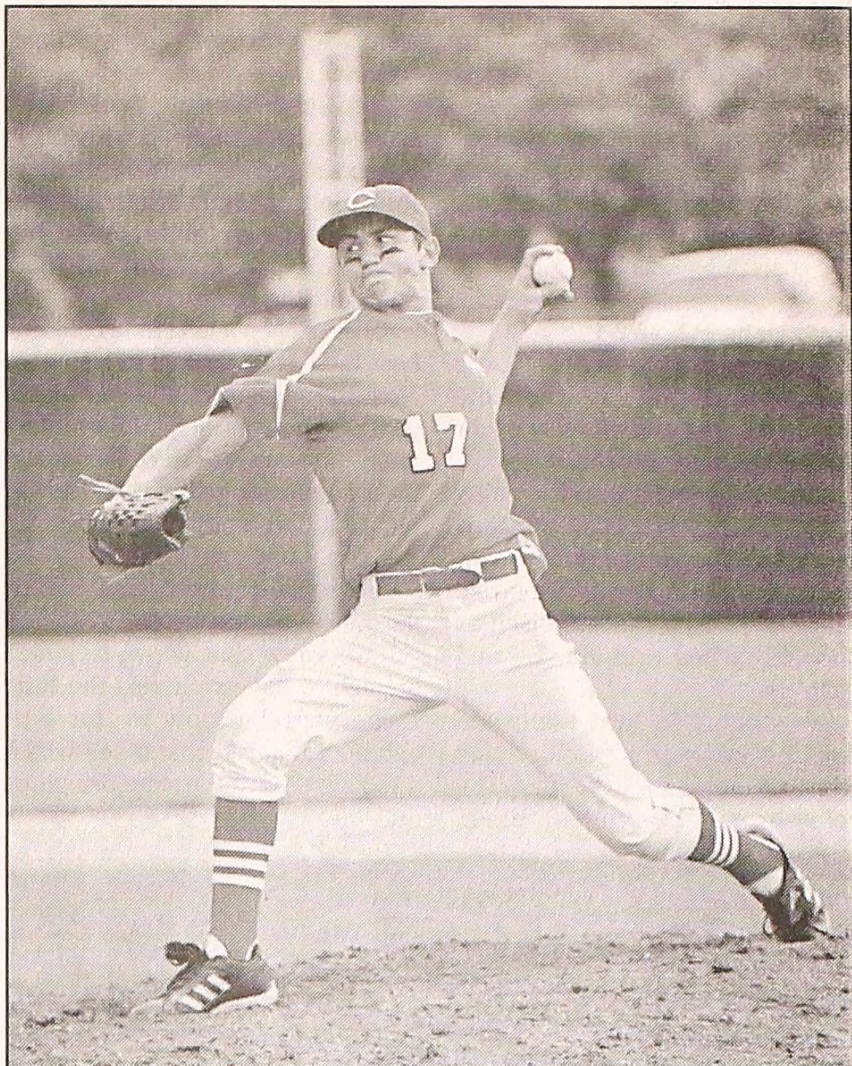
Canton's lone run was at the bottom of the first. Senior Ben Vaughn moved senior Ryan Neu to third with a double. Then junior Dan Stoney ripped a single, scoring Neu.

"We just ran into a brick wall," said Canton Coach Mark Blomshield. "Brother Rice is a good program. We gave them seven runs in the second and it was hard to play catch up. We hit the ball but didn't get a lot of hits."

Canton had better at-bats against Novi in the early game on Saturday, beating the Wildcats, 5-4.

The Chiefs' offense got going in the second.

Sophomore Braden Price—pinch runner for senior Will Tidwell, who was on with a single—scored the team's first run when sophomore Cody Blakita ripped a



Canton sophomore Kevin Delapaz pitched the final two innings against Novi on Saturday for the save. He struck out three and only gave up one hit.



The Canton Chiefs had their best season in 19 years, winning a district championship and beating Novi in the regional finals on Saturday at Birmingham Seaholm. A tough Brother Rice squad stalled their momentum and beat them, 12-1, in five innings in the regional final.

single. Sophomore Kevin Delapaz knocked Blakita in with a single. Neu drilled a double to score freshman Seth Tschetter and Delapaz scored on Vaughn's single to make a 4-0 game.

Novi countered in the third with four runs to knot the game.

The game came down to the sixth inning. With bases loaded and no outs Blakita hit a sacrifice fly that allowed junior Joel Schwiebert to score the winning run.

Blomshield put lefty Delapaz on the mound and he shut the Wildcats down the rest of the way.

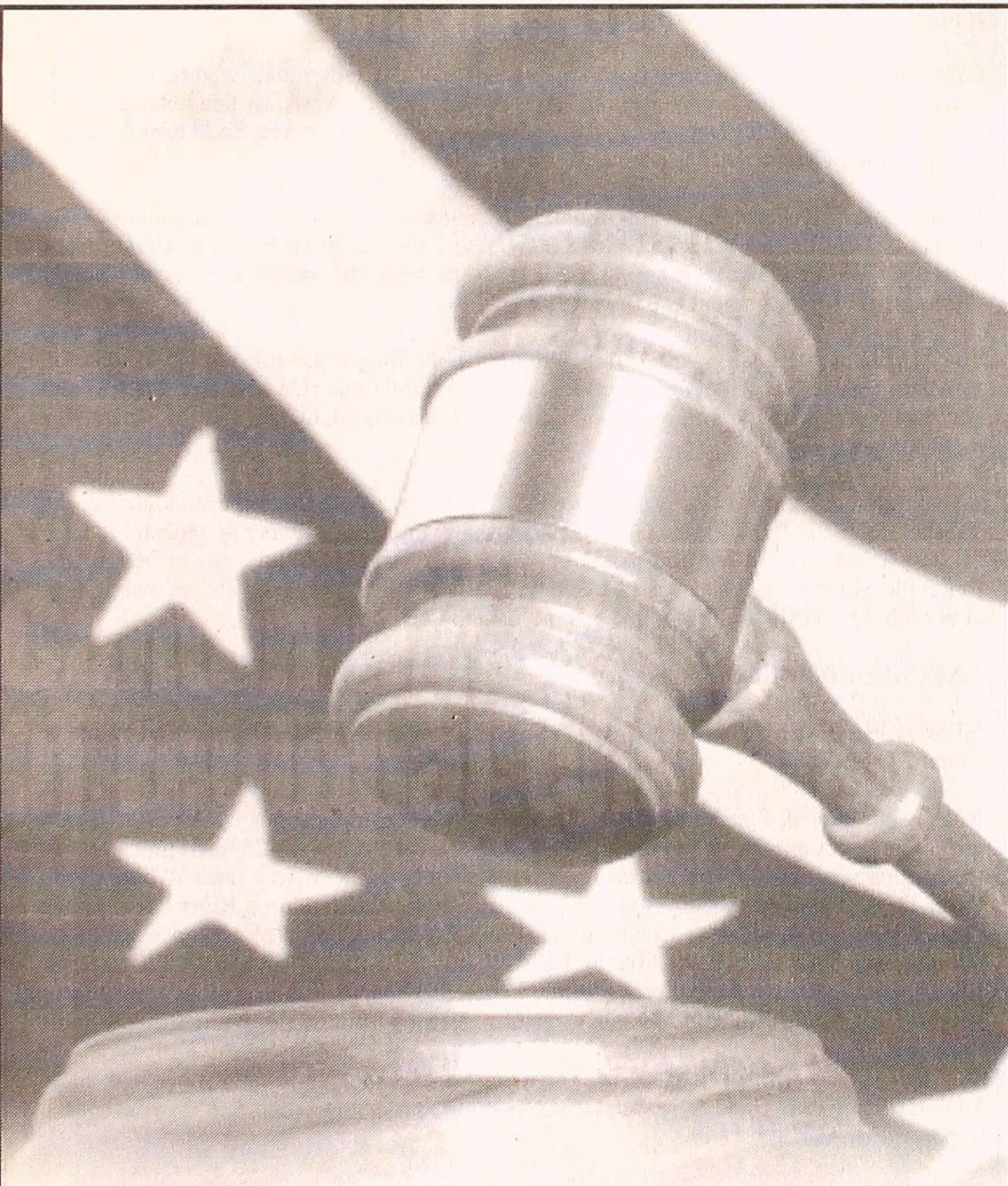
"We knew that they could hit the ball," Blomshield said. "We went with our lefty and he did a great job of holding them down the rest of the game. We had to push over one more run and it came down to fundamental baseball. We got the lead off guy and bunt him over to third.

We had a few fluke bunt hits that were supposed to be sacrifice bunts that got by the pitcher and the next thing you know we had bases loaded and our fastest kid on third and that's all we needed I guess."

Canton got hot at the end of the season, winning 17 of its last 20 games under Blomshield during his first year at Canton.

"It was a fun ride," he said. "It was fun while it lasted and I hope we just have a chance to do it again."

"We were obviously excited to make it to the regional finals," he added. "As a first year coach I think it really establishes the expectations and sets the bar for this program. We had high expectations but now I'm setting them higher. These kids are going to expect to come back and expect to compete in the post season."



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# SPORTS

## Soccer

FROM PAGE 10

Keiffer and sophomores Kelsey Fiscus and Tori Wright will wrap up other key positions. Plus, the junior varsity squad only gave up two goals this season.

### Northville beats Novi, 2-1

Senior Sarah Stern won a mission last Tuesday when she faced cross-town nemesis Novi for the last time in her career.

Just 43 seconds into the rainy contest she broke free and punched in a shot on a ball that junior Novi goalkeeper Erin Zerio misplayed. Stern looked just as surprised as she was excited with the easy and early goal.

Novi didn't go away easily and tied the game on a penalty kick with 5:03 remaining in the first. The referees called junior Kathleen

Keiffer for tripping and Novi senior Jenna Carosio fired the penalty shot past sophomore keeper Elana Rysnar.

Senior Theresa Yankovich scored the winning goal with 13:47 left in the second half. Yankovich, from Keiffer, banked her shot off the foot of a defender, sending Zerio one way and the ball the other into the net.

"That's been a long time coming, hasn't it?" Meteyer said of losing to Novi in the playoffs the last three years. "The weather had a factor today, obviously. Both of our goals their keeper probably would have played it differently if it not been a wet, soggy day."

"It's so much revenge as it is vindication," he added.

"We know that we were good enough to have won also the last three years so now we have a chance to move on and see what the other side of the state brings to us."



The Lady Wildcats rejoice after scoring two runs in the third inning to tie Lakeland in the regional final. Plymouth lost the championship game, 12-5.



## Outdoor livin'

Eleven-year-old Romulus resident Colton Robbins (son of Todd and Deanna Robbins of Romulus) shot his first turkey last month on May 10, 2008 in Eaton County. The gobbler weighed in at 20 pounds with a nine-inch beard.

## Softball

FROM PAGE 9

Patterson earned the win from the circle. Senior Allison Holmes recorded the loss for Northville.

"This was the third time that we faced this team and after beating them pretty good twice, they were hungry and they came to play," Chrzanowski. "They knew what our batters were going to do and it worked for them."

Plymouth beat cross-campus rival Salem—the team that squeaked by Northville in the Western Lakes conference championship—in district play to earn the title and move on to the regional tournament.

Northville finished the regular season with a 29-4 record

and were ranked in the top 10 in the state.

Chrzanowski was pleased with the efforts of her team through the season and the playoffs.

"I told them how proud I was of them that they didn't give up and that they were making things happen at the end," she said.

The Lady Cats put up a good fight in the regional final but lost to a superior Lakeland team, 12-5.

After three scoreless innings Lakeland jumped out to a 2-0 advantage at the top of the fourth.

Plymouth answered in the fifth

when Beth Heldmeyer and junior Jill Brennan scored on freshman Marissa Blassic's two-out single.

Then the floodgates opened. Lakeland scored six runs in the sixth for an 8-2 lead. Plymouth rallied two more in at the bottom of the frame. Sophomore Stacey Klonowski scored on freshman Jessica Bondy's single and Bondy scored on Heldmeyer's single to cut the lead to 8-4.

At the bottom of the seventh Blassic drilled a triple and scored on a ground out by freshman Lauren Smith for the final score.

## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES JUNE 3, 2008

Supervisor King called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor King, Clerk Payne, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Clair, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr and Trustee Rochowiak. Absent and excused: None. Others in attendance: Planning and Economic Development Director Kelley, Public Safety Director Champagne, Deputy Treasurer Bellingham, Accounting Coordinator Morse, Captain Brooks, Captain Laurain, Executive Assistant Ireland, Secretary Cline and an audience of thirty-three (33).

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Hart moved, Budd seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None.

**MINUTES:** Jahr moved, Clair seconded to approve the Work Study Session Minutes of May 19, 2008 as presented. Carried.

Clair moved, Rochowiak seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of May 20, 2008 as presented. Carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Supervisor King recognized five individuals who recently graduated from the Washtenaw Area Mutual Aid Association Fire Academy and obtained certifications in Fire Fighter One and Fire Fighter Two: Lacy Jo Marcotte, Todd Sorrell, Louis Keele, Robert Greene and Christopher Wiggins.

Wayne County Department of Environment is sponsoring a Household Hazardous Waste Collection on Saturday, June 7th from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Romulus Civic Center located at Wayne Road in Romulus. For more information contact the Wayne County Department of Environment at 734.326.3936.

The Michigan National Guard Family Program is holding a benefit motorcycle ride on June 8th, sponsored by the Van Buren Eagles. The eighty mile ride begins at the Ypsilanti National Guard Armory with registration from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and for more information contact 734.699.8836.

A communication from Cathy Horste, Van Buren Township Historian announcing the Tuesday, June 3rd "The Purple Gang Strikes Again" interactive dinner and theatre murder mystery event is sold out and a second show will be held on July 8th to benefit the Belleville Museum sponsored by the Belleville Historical Society both shows will be held at the Johnny's Grill. For more information call 734.697.3662.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Budd moved, Hart seconded to accept the 2007 Audits from Plante & Moran. Carried.

Rochowiak moved, Jahr seconded to approve the permit applications by AT&T to install telecommunications infrastructure for PN#5873488 MES 1034-08-2578 from a point in the northerly portion of the Huron River Drive public right of way, near 47500 Huron River Drive, then immediately south to a point in the southerly Huron River Drive public right of way, then easterly to a point in the Huron River Drive right of way, just east of the intersection of Huron River Drive and Elwell Road; PN#5862467 MES 1034-08-2577 from a point in the northerly portion of the Ecorse Road public right of way, near the rear property line of 7371 Sadie Lane, then westerly near the front property line of 7371 Sadie Lane. Carried.

**VOUCHER LIST:** Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve the June 3, 2008 voucher list as presented. Carried.

**REPORTS:** None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The 2008 fireworks display will be held on Saturday, June 28th with a rain date of Sunday, June 29th at the Beck Road baseball fields at dusk. Supervisor King stated Tyler Road is closed between Beck and Belleville Roads noting the township has a meeting with Wayne County regarding traffic flow for this event and will keep the public informed. For further information on events contact the Recreation Department at 734.699.8921.

Trustee Clair stated she found a large grey cat if you believe this may be your cat contact her at 734.697.4229.

**AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items):** None.

**CLOSED SESSION:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Jahr moved, Payne seconded to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Joannie D. Payne, CMC  
Township Clerk

Cindy C. King  
Supervisor

Publish: June 12, 2008

## THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN Newspaper Advertisement

**Seeking Housing Rehabilitation Bids.** The Charter Township of Van Buren, Wayne County, MI will receive bids for Housing Rehabilitation through the Community Development Block Grant Program on parcel number V125-83-037-99-0003-000 also known as 44300 Robson, Van Buren Township, MI 48111. Bid forms and work specifications are available at the Township Clerk's Office, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111, from 8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday. Bids will be received until 2:00 pm, July 3, 2008 and should be submitted to the Clerks office. The bids will be publicly opened at 2:15 pm July 3, 2008. The Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids and is not required to accept the low bid, is an equal opportunity employer. If you have any questions please contact Development Services, Pat at (734) 699-8913

Publish: June 12, 2008

## 1954 PA 188 Proceedings Notice of Street Lighting Special Assessment Hearing

### Charter Township of Van Buren Wayne County, Michigan

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that as a result of petitions by the property owners within the Township signed by the record owners of land whose footage constitutes more than 50 percent of the total footage of the hereinafter described as **Homestead Phases III, IV, and V** Street Lighting Special Assessment District and the Township Board of the Charter Township of Van Buren proposes to purchase, construct and maintain street lights and to create a special assessment district for the recovery of the cost thereof by special assessment against the properties benefited therein

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the District within which the foregoing improvements are proposed to be constructed and within which the cost thereof is proposed to be assessed is more particularly described as follows: **Homestead Phase III, IV, and V approximately 170 inclusive.**

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Township has received a preliminary street lighting layout plan from Detroit Edison indicating three street lights to be constructed with an annual operating cost of \$8,951.39. This plan is on file at the Township Clerk's Office and is available for examination and will further be available at the public hearing.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a public hearing upon the proposed street lighting project design and cost will be held at the Charter Township of Van Buren Municipal Center at 46425 Tyler Road, Belleville, Michigan, commencing at 7:30 p.m. on **Tuesday July 1, 2008.**

At such hearing, the board will consider any written objections to any of the foregoing matters which might be filed with said board at or prior to the time of said hearing as well as any revisions, corrections, amendments, or changes to said Plans, Estimates and Costs or to said Special Assessment District.

All interested persons are invited to be present at the aforesaid time and place and to submit comments concerning any of the foregoing.

\*In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, accommodations can be made available with advance notice.

Township Clerk Joannie Payne  
46425 Tyler Road  
Belleville, MI 48111

Publish: June 12, 2008  
June 19, 2008

SPORTS

# Winning smiles

## Area dentist scores with Detroit Ignition soccer team

Ashley Dobos  
Staff Writer

It's safe to say that Delitha Taylor started out with a dream and ended up with a goal.

Taylor, the Inkster native and owner of the Always Gentle Dentistry in Garden City, is the team dentist for the Detroit Ignition, a professional indoor soccer team that plays in Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township.

She's sunk her teeth into the role since the team put out the request during their inaugural year in 2006.

"I'm not your traditional dentist. I'm community oriented," she said. "If anyone's interested in soccer or dentistry I'm the go to girl."

It may seem like a strange mix, but it works for her—and her clients.

Taylor buys eight season tickets a year to the Detroit Ignition games. She said she's a big Ignition fan, but with a 5-year-old son and her business responsibilities, she's not always able to go to every game.

"I'm there in spirit," she said with a laugh.

When Taylor's not able to go to the games, she likes giving the tickets away, especially to students in the community with an interest in soccer. She said she wants to help youngsters expand their horizons because she has noticed an interest in soccer among them.

"It's fun and a way to expose others to the sport," she said.

Her practice is the result of a

nearly life long dream. She's wanted to be a dentist since she was 11, and had to overcome plenty of obstacles along the way. She came from a single-parent home and worked through eight years of college before she graduated from the University of Michigan School of Dentistry in 1994.

"For me, to become a dentist always started off as an idea and with faith and hard work, we're still small but I still have

more ideas and more faith," said Taylor.

Her favorite part of her job, though, doesn't technically come from her title as official dentist of the soccer team. She said it's because she can help change lives.

"When you improve someone's

smile, a lot of the time it affects their self esteem in a positive way," she said.

She said she hopes that extends into the lives of her younger patients, too.

"Kids can overcome obstacles," she said. "Don't give up, keep going"



Delitha Taylor is the team dentist for the Detroit Ignition.

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6/15-6/20 **WATERHORSE (PG)**  
• **THE HAPPENING (R)** 12:50, 2:55, 5:00, 7:10, 9:35 FRI/SAT LS 11:50  
• **THE INCREDIBLE HULK (PG-13)** 11:25, 1:55, 4:25, 6:55, 9:25 FRI/SAT LS 11:55  
• **KUNG FU PANDA (PG)** 11:00, 12:00, 1:10, 2:10, 3:20, 4:20, 5:30, 6:30, 7:40, 9:00 FRI/SAT LS 11:15  
• **SEX AND THE CITY (R)** 12:30, 3:30, 6:40, 9:40  
• **THE STRANGERS (R)** 1:35, 3:40, 5:45, 7:50, 9:55 FRI/SAT LS 12:00  
• **INDIANA JONES AND THE KINGDOM OF THE CRYSTAL SKULL (PG-13)** 11:30, 2:05, 4:40, 7:20, 9:55  
• **IRON MAN (PG-13)** 11:00, 9:50

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**OUR ELEMENTARY GRADES**

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Finally, once again, all of our elementary and middle schools have achieved Adequate Yearly Progress, the state's benchmark for student achievement, which means our entire district has met AYP.

In addition, Taylor has earned NCA accreditation for our middle schools, at both high schools and four of our elementary schools.

### NOTICE

#### ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

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### BUDGET HEARING

A Public Hearing on its proposed budget will be held by the Board of Education of the Romulus Community School District on:

**Monday, June 23, 2008**  
**at 6:15 p.m.**  
in the  
**Board of Education Office**  
36540 Grant Road  
Romulus, MI 48174

**COPIES OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW IN THE ROMULUS ADMINISTRATION OFFICE BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8:15 A.M. AND 4:00 P.M. ON JUNE 23, 2008**

Tom Kuderik, Secretary  
Romulus Board of Education

Publish: June 12, 2008

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